

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.

09/806,837

Confirmation No.: 6405

Applicant

POELSTRA et al.

Filed:

July 23, 2001

TC/A.U.

1646

Examiner

Janet L. Andres

Docket No.

7392/71228

Customer No.

42798 (WDC) and 22242 (Chicago)

Commissioner for Patents U.S. Patent and Trademark Office 220 20th Street S. Customer Window, Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03 Arlington, VA 22202

July 1, 2004

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated April 14, 2004, please amend the aboveidentified application as follows:

- (1) Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.
 - (3) Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.

Fee Purpose Only

07/14/2004 DWILLIA4 00000001 061135 09806837 Sale Ref: 06000001 DA#: 061135 09806837 01 FC:1201 86.00 DA

486.00 DA

Appln. No. 09/806,837 Amdt. dated July 1, 2004 Reply to Office Action of April 14, 2004

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to enter this Amendment.

Allowability for claims 14 and 18-24 is acknowledged with appreciation.

Applicants respectfully present claim amendments in an effort to advance prosecution. Applicants' amended claims are without prejudice to pursuing such appropriate additional patent protection in a divisional and/or continuation application. Amended claims 1, 2, 31, and 32 are presented so that the method is recited in alternative, but traditional, method claim format. It is not intended to limit the scope of these claims. Amended claim 26 deletes prophylaxis but without prejudice. Amended claim 28 is revised to address the formality objection.

Applicants have endeavored to respond to all matters in an effort to advance patent prosecution. If by chance the Examiner belives that some matter was overlooked, please telephone the undersigned so that all matters are resolved with a view towards favorable action on the merits. If the Examiner has any questions or proposals for successfully advancing patent prosecution, kindly telephone Applicants' representative.

Applicants respectfully request entry of their Amendment and respectfully solicit a Notice of Allowance.

Respectfully submited,

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY

Kendrew H. Colton

Registration No. 30,368

Telephone: (202) 419-7000

Facsimile: (202) 419 -7007

Customer No.: 42798

FITCH, EVEN, TABIN & FLANNERY 1801 K Street, NW - Suite 401L Washington, DC 20006-1201